

LA CHAÎNE

UNE INFOLETTRE DE
PUNK MONTRÉALAIS /
D.I.Y. SHOW LISTING
#6 – AVRIL/APRIL 2023



pictured: IFO global lazer ops, reporting for duty

What IS IFO? Do you function, and if so how? I heard you just got a bank account, that's pretty crazy.

The initial and long standing acronym for IFO is Insane Fuckers Only. It has consistently been International Friends Only on paper for the institutional eyes. We barely function, but we do churn out some fun events. The bank account seems more illustrious than it really is—we have received a few SOCAN grants but they have become more strict about their processes. Thus, IFO LTD was born. We have bank cards that say “business” and we have to pay taxes...a whole new era of debauchery.

INFO presents

We've been hearing rumours circulating of a follow-up to last year's SEARCHING FOR THE SUN fest, put on by the notoriously chaotic local "organization" Insane Fuckers Only (IFO). We hounded members for the early scoop and got some answers: Bad Sasha fills us in on the state of IFO (legitimate), the fest (probably happening) and predictions about the state of punk in 2023 (still fun).

Is there anything coming down the pipe for the next few months that you can share with readers of LA CHAÎNE? I've heard rumours of another fest...

I'm not sure if I would call it a fest—we do have a 2 day Sala takeover happening May 26-27. FFO dance downstairs, stage dive upstairs. Full details to be spilt in the very near future but I can tell you that the lineup may look like: SOCIEDAD BASTARDA, PEACE TALKS, MIRAGE, INNUENDO, BOZO, FAZE, DUREX, THE MALL, BELLYHATCHER, STREET GLOVES, AEPW, RIVALLED ENVY, K.O.S., BLACK DOG, MUTATED VOID, WARKRUSHER, TOTAL NADA, and ...?

The real question is: will we finally get a mosh workshop?

I brought up the forgotten idea of the MOSH OLYMPICS with a guest panel of mosh move judges, but I think we missed our chance for this at the March 30th show. You gotta rag on Bad Bill for a mosh workshop, tho.

2023 seems like it's shaping up to be another great year for DIY punk. Do you have any trend forecasts?

I think bands that sound like they listened to DISCHARGE through their youth but care more about KORO now are a big IN. I asked Belén and she said ultra fast USHC is out—we have reached capacity. We both agree synths are IN! Rock'n'roll influence is VERY IN but leaning on purely MOTORHEAD-type riffs is OUT.

I also think that having fun is IN! Again! So many years in a row. Longest running “IN”, in my opinion.



MONTREAL SCENE REPORT by VIJ

The Montreal punk and hardcore scene is really on the upswing these days. Here's a brief report on what I've seen lately. This is for sure nothing even close to comprehensive.

NEW BANDS

There seems to be a great crop of new bands lately playing a bunch of different styles. I'll mention a few but I'm missing lots and I know there are lots more that haven't busted out of their jam space yet. Definitely check all these folks out.

TENAZ is a new minimal peace punk band with members of ESTORBO, BLEMISH, and many other bands. They played their first show at Yell Out Fest and it was very cool.

ORDER OF OPERATIONS made their debut at the memorial show back in December, and I know these folks have been starting a bunch of new bands recently. Hopefully they'll all come out with the leaves later this spring.

DUREX is a new hardcore band with folks from PEEVE and LIQUID ASSETS. They also debuted at Yell Out and came out of the gates hard.

WILL TO SPEAK is a new positive hardcore band for fans of straightforward hardcore. It seems like this band has links to like 10 other bands in the city. Great stage presence.

CHAIN BLOCK is a new hardcore for hardcore band. Pretty sick, members of PLUS MINUS and other bands. Thankyou Thankyou Thankyou.

RATPISS isn't new but they are new to me. I love crust grind and they do it pretty well.

DEADBOLT are everyone's favourite two step champions. This band is sick in a DIY space. They are playing tons of shows come out and mosh.

SERPENT CORPSE isn't really new anymore but they are too good not to mention. Death Metal played by punks.

JETSAM everyone knows by now, power violence for lovers of screamo with members from RATTUS RATTUS and AMARIOR. Super cool drums/bass/vocals three piece.

TENSER hasn't played yet, but I think this is a traditional Power Violence band? Pretty stoked to hear them soon.

VENUES

L'Achoppe is a collective building that has been back to having a few shows lately. It's a great spot, perfect size, the sound is sick for a house venue, just watch out for dog shit if you are hanging out in the back yard.

TraXide is the cruelest DIY venue in Montreal right now. It's in an old loft in the Fattal complex, right beside the train trax. They seem to be going full steam, I don't know if they are still booking that shithead racist “can't you take a joke?” band from Vancouver in June though. Fuck that bullshit. It's excellently loud, the loft is pretty sick, but people smoke inside. Hopefully with better weather there will be less smoking inside.

The Van Horne underpass is IMO the sickest spot. It's a bummer that winter has dragged on, but Spring seems to be here now and I hope every show this summer will be outside.

Fouf's is like an institution and for years felt like the sketchiest giant rock bar in town. They have a new side room that has hosted a lot of punk and hardcore shows lately. It's kinda big but there hasn't (con't on back)